

# **Chemical Munitions at Blue Grass**

The Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) is safely destroying a chemical weapons stockpile stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot, or BGAD. The depot, located near Richmond, Kentucky, provides conventional ammunition services, chemical defense equipment management and manufacturing capabilities for the Department of Defense. The Blue Grass Chemical Activity, a tenant of the 15,000-acre depot, is responsible for safekeeping the chemical weapons stockpile stored at the depot. Together, the U.S. Army and the community surrounding BGAD are working in a committed partnership to support the safe destruction of the stockpile.

The Blue Grass chemical weapons stockpile was originally comprised of 523 U.S. tons of weaponized blister and nerve agent in M55 rockets, 155mm projectiles and 8-inch projectiles. Destruction operations began in June 2019 and are scheduled to complete by the congressionally mandated deadline of Dec. 31, 2023.

#### 8-INCH PROJECTILES, M426 (GB)



Campaign Status: Complete | First munition destroyed: Jan. 17, 2020, Last munition destroyed: May 11, 2020

As of May 11, 2020, all 8-inch projectiles have been safely destroyed in Kentucky. Each 8-inch projectile weighed 203 pounds and was filled with approximately 14.5 pounds of liquified GB nerve agent. The agent was drained from the munitions and neutralized. Metal parts were decontaminated and recycled in accordance with all environmental laws and regulations.

#### 155MM PROJECTILES, M110 (H)



Campaign Status: Complete | First munition destroyed: June 7, 2019, Last munition destroyed: Sept. 4, 2021

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### 155MM PROJECTILE, M110 (H) (cont.)

The M110 155mm projectile is made of forged steel and filled with 11.7 pounds of blistering agent H, also known as mustard. In total, the munition, which contains a burster, weighs more than 94 pounds. On June 7, 2019, BGCAPP began destroying 155mm projectiles filled with mustard agent using the <a href="Static Detonation Chamber">Static Detonation Chamber</a>. Remaining metal parts are being recycled after the munitions are destroyed.

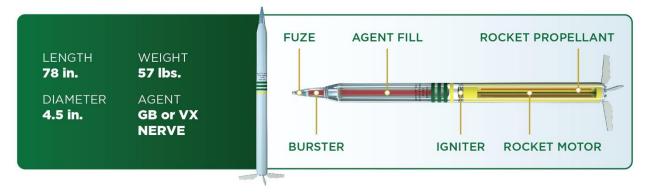
## 155MM PROJECTILE, M121A1 (VX)



**Campaign Status: Complete** | First munition destroyed: Jan. 10, 2021, Last munition destroyed: May 28, 2021

The M121A1 155mm projectile is made of forged steel and filled with six pounds of VX nerve agent. In total, the munition weighs more than 98 pounds. On Jan. 10, 2021, BGCAPP began destroying these weapons using <u>neutralization</u>. Metal parts are being decontaminated and recycled in accordance with all environmental laws and regulations.

#### 115MM CHEMICAL ROCKETS, M55 (GB or VX)



VX Campaign Status: Underway | First munition destroyed July 9, 2021

# **GB Campaign Status: Upcoming**

The M55 115mm rocket consists of a chemical agent filled M56 warhead attached to a M67 rocket motor. It has a diameter of 115 millimeters (4.44 inches) and weighs a total of 77.5 pounds within the M441 shipping and firing tube container. The warhead is filled with 10 pounds of VX nerve agent or 10.7 pounds of GB nerve agent. BGCAPP will destroy these weapons using <a href="mailto:neutralization">neutralization</a> in upcoming campaigns. The drained rocket warheads and overpacked munitions will be destroyed in a <a href="Static">Static</a> <a href="Detonation Chamber">Detonation Chamber</a> unit.

